October 9, 2003

To: Biology Department Faculty
From: The Undergraduate Research Committee
(Stark, Camilo, Aspinwall, Aldridge, Fisher and Tsubota)
Subject: Biology Undergraduate Research Awards

The Department of Biology will award up to four of our undergraduate students who have completed research projects during the current academic year.

Prizes are:
First place, $100
Second place, $50
Two honorable mention awards, $25 each.

The winners' names will be added to a plaque to be placed in the Biology Department Board Room. An announcement of awards will be made immediately prior to the final Departmental Seminar in the Spring 2004 semester. If possible, the awardees will also be recognized at the Undergraduate Precommencement.

To be considered for the undergraduate research award, students must:
1) be nominated by their faculty research advisor who should complete the attached nomination form and submit it to Dr. Stark by March 5, 2004.
2) have completed the research project during the current academic year (or during the summer 2003 semester).
3) have been enrolled for either Advanced Independent Study (BL-A498) or Senior Inquiry (BL-A488)
4) present a poster describing the research project. An undergraduate research day poster session will be Friday, April 16, 2004.

All posters will be judged by the Undergraduate Research Award Committee.
1) The poster must clearly state the hypothesis that is being tested.
2) The poster must follow the standard scientific format of Abstract, Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion/Conclusion and Literature Cited.
3) The poster should be clear and concise for the general science audience. It should be free of cumbersome jargon and should be well written without spelling or grammatical errors.

Posters will be judged on the basis of their overall scientific merit. Factors on which posters will be judged include:
1) sophistication of the problem studied (i.e. the use of modern approaches for testing the stated hypothesis).
2) originality of the work.
3) expression (Is the poster concise and easy to follow?)
4) presentation (The student is expected to be present the poster for the judges and the audience).
Biology Undergraduate Research Awards
Nomination Form

Student's name ___________________________ SLU ID ________________

Academic Advisor ____________________________

Laboratory Advisor (if different from above) ________________

Term enrolled ________________

Course # BL- ________________

Tentative title of the poster: ________________________________

_____________________________________________________

Please indicate the precise amount of student participation/effort that was involved in this research project, the time frame that the student worked on this project, and the percent effort that the student contributed to the research:

_____________________________________________________

The deadline for submission of this nomination form is March 5, 2004.
The Undergraduate Research Day Symposium is Friday, April 16, 2004.